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The Director of Central Intelligence

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Executive Registry

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LTG James A. Williams, USA
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Department of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Jim:

In anticipation of our meeting on Wednesday, I thought it might be useful to let you know before hand some of the subjects that I would like to raise with you and some of my concerns.

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Improved Community Cooperation on Research Programs and Contracts

The Intelligence Producers Council has made a good deal of progress in the last year and a half in terms of sharing information on external contracts. In addition, there is a useful exchange of research programs among DIA, INR and DDI. 25X1

As we face the likelihood of smaller new increments of people, I believe we should improve further coordination of research by earlier and more substantive collaboration in planning research programs and contractual activities. At present there is merely an exchange of information, generally after the fact. We have made little effort to interweave programs, allocate problems to specific organizations or attempt to systematically develop competitive efforts. 25X1

I would be interested in your view of the current exchange and your suggestions on how we might improve and intensify this process. Each organization obviously has its own set of customers, but it strikes me that much more can be done in the way of a division of labor, joint efforts and specifically designated competitive efforts. 25X1

Third World Data Bases

A substantial percentage of both DIA and DDI new positions and money in recent years have been justified to the Congress on the basis of building Third World data bases. I know, for example, that Bob Gates has told the Congress that he is prepared to rely on DIA for Third World military information and order of battle. At the same time, I recently saw your evaluation of data base adequacy published earlier this summer which contains charts showing that DIA's capabilities on a large number of important Third World countries are marginal to inadequate. 25X1

In this regard, I know from my conversations on the Hill that both Senators Wallop and Lugar were dismayed by the presentation of these charts last spring at the budget hearing and were concerned that so little progress had been made in improving the data bases after such a large investment of people and money. 25X1

I would like to discuss when you expect to turn the corner on this and can show a marked improvement of capabilities on the charts? After seeing these charts, Senator Lugar referred to the effort as a bottomless well. How do we counter that? And what kind of progress are you making? 25X1

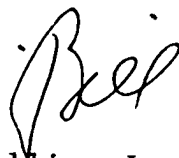
Dissemination of Finished Intelligence

I will be raising at NFIB this week some fairly dramatic measures that Bob Gates has proposed for curtailing the dissemination of finished intelligence by CIA. While we do not anticipate cutting the circulation of the NID as part of this, we

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are planning to eliminate coverage in the NID of some sensitive areas -- particularly Soviet weapon systems development. For example, we have treated the dismantling of some SS-20 sites in briefing memoranda which have been circulated to people with a need to know on a very limited basis.

I understand DIA has taken some steps along these lines and I would be interested in what you have done. Moreover, with DIA's diverse set of customers, is it possible for DIA also to cut back significantly on the dissemination of finished intelligence?



William J. Casey

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